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SUBJECT: INSTRUCTION: HRC RESOLUTION ON THE FINANCIAL
CRISIS

REF: BRANCATO - NEVILLE EMAIL 9.30.2009 9:39AM

1. The Department authorizes USDEL to join consensus, and deliver the explanation of position below, on the resolution entitled "Follow up to the 10th Human Rights Council Special Session (Resolution 10/1) on the impact of the global economic and financial crisis on the universal realization and effective enjoyment of human rights," provided that the resolution text does not change significantly from the wording contained in REFTEL to negatively affect vital U.S. interests. If a vote is called, USDEL is authorized to ABSTAIN and use the EOP below as an EOY.

2. Explanation of Position:

The United States joins consensus on this resolution as we recognize that the current economic and financial crisis presents unique challenges to all countries around the world.

In his statement at the conclusion of the G20 meeting last week President Obama reiterated his call for a new era of engagement, &an era when nations live up to their responsibilities, and act on behalf of our shared security and prosperity.8

The United States emphasizes the primary responsibility of states to protect and promote human rights. We note that the current financial crisis may pose challenges to the universal promotion and protection of human rights; however, it is nonetheless imperative that States actively work to protect the human rights of individuals within their jurisdiction. While we all recognize that development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights and that the global economic and financial crisis presents unique challenges to the efforts of developing countries to achieve their national development goals, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights.

CLINTON